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SHUT OUT
SHEEN NOT WELCOME AT N.Y. HOTELS
{page 11}

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OTTAWA metro®
Wednesday, March 30, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Local MPP pulled from legislature

PC's Lisa McLeod ejected over 'liar' claim ◗ Ottawa Centre MPP touts budget, says expanded breast cancer screening, children's mental health funding good news for Ottawa ◗ Mayor lauds funding for east-end Queensway

STEVE COLLINS
OTTAWA@METRONEWS.CA

Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi praised yesterday's Ontario budget for targeting the deficit while maintaining key services.

"We want to make sure we continue to eliminate the deficit and we have put a timeline around that, but we are also making the choice that we will continue to protect our health care and education," Naqvi said. "We will not make any cuts."

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan's budget speech repeatedly suggested a PC government would make deep cuts, inspiring Nepean-Carleton MPP Lisa McLeod to call him a "liar."

She was ejected from the legislature after refusing to withdraw her unparliamentary language. She wasn't impressed with the budget, either.

"There's nothing new or remarkable that was in there that was any good news for anybody from the city of Ottawa," she said.

▶Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan takes his dog Max on his morning walk down to Queen's Park in Toronto yesterday before tabling the budget.

AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Home

Say you live here with pride

◗ Ottawa area rated best place to live {page 3}

No weapons for opposition

Leaders agree not to provide arms to Libyan rebels {page 6-7}

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Not even Skype can handle this one

As the International Space Station passes over Ottawa today, Grade 9 students at Canterbury High School will speak with Paolo Napoli, the spacecraft's Italian astronaut.

Yesterday the school had the proper radios and computer equipment set up in order to communicate with the astronaut.

At exactly 10:56 a.m. today, the school will have 10 minutes to ask Napoli about his research and personal experiences in space.

Canterbury teacher Margaret Caiger-Watson said today's event is creating a lot of buzz among the students.

"I think that concept of actually speaking to someone who is up in space seems like a crazy concept," she said. "It's that kind of excitement."

JOE LOFARO

HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ The International Space Station.

Quake hits close to reactor

A small earthquake was reported 66 kilometres north of Deep River yesterday. Earthquakes Canada said the 3.5-magnitude quake occurred at 12:04 p.m. There were no reports of damage or injury. The tremor wasn't felt at the nuclear reactor in nearby Chalk River, said a spokesperson for Atomic Energy of Canada.

METRO

JOE LOFARO/METRO

▶ A view of the Parliament Buildings and the Confederation Building taken from Nepean Point.

Region rated best to live in

Top ranking due partly to city's government jobs, high incomes

Ottawa has found a way to be ranked the most livable city in Canada in the most boring way possible.

For a second year in a row, and the fourth time in the last six years, the capital, along with its Quebec twin Gatineau, came first in MoneySense magazine's Best Places to Live ranking.

"It never really outperforms in any individual category. It always seems to come in just above average in almost every category," said Joe Castaldo, lead author of the MoneySense story.

Leading the way

The Top 10 best places to live, according to MoneySense magazine.

1. Ottawa-Gatineau
2. Victoria
3. Burlington, Ont.
4. Kingston, Ont.
5. St. Albert, Alta.
6. Fredericton
7. Brandon, Man.
8. Edmonton
9. Repentigny, Que.
10. Winnipeg

The news was greeted with skepticism by some on Twitter who touted Montreal and Toronto as better despite their rankings of 120 and 85.

But Kaleigh Maclaren, who was enjoying the green space at Major's Hill Park yesterday, said she couldn't agree more with the first-place ranking.

"I like the community aspect of it and the fact that you can be downtown and within five minutes, be in Gatineau Park and being active," said Maclaren. "It's a nice city."

SEAN MCKIBBON AND JOE LOFARO

1 news

Pro tip: Staff searching for the Bronx Zoo's missing cobra should check her Twitter feed. Scan the code for the story.

1 Download the free ScanLife application with your smartphone at 2dscan.com

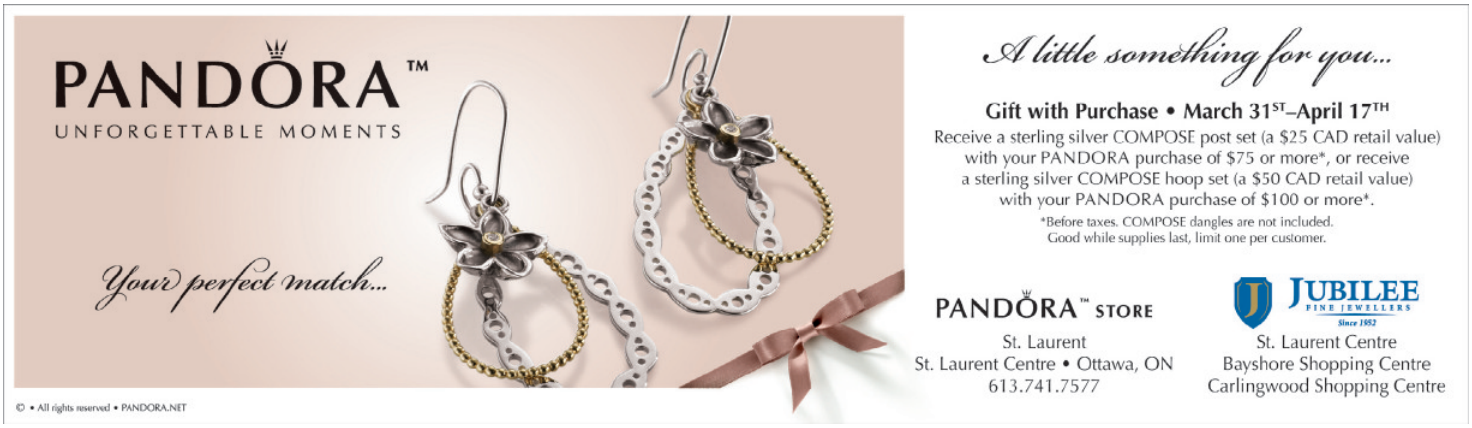
2 Use the ScanLife application on your smartphone to scan 2D barcodes in Metro

3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to relevant content at m.metronews.ca

On the web at metronews.ca

Gord McIntosh on how the Liberals allowed themselves to be run over by the coalition charge. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor

Follow us on Twitter @metroottawa



Budget leaves few perks for Ontarians

- No tax cuts or credits found in new provincial budget
- Liberal finance minister aims to curb huge deficit

Ontario delivered a garrison budget yesterday designed to paint the governing Liberals as the sole protectors of vital public services against the threat of penny-pinching Conservatives and "job-killing" New Democrats ahead of the fall election.

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan circled the wagons around education and health care in his $113.8-billion spending plan, taking a few stabs at curbing double-digit deficits that will see Ontario submerged in red ink for years to come.

But if the Liberals are planning to ply voters with a few goodies ahead of the Oct. 6 vote, they weren't in this budget.

There wasn't a single new tax cut or credit to be found, just strategic investments that will provide insurance for more farmers, expand breast cancer screenings, and add new college and university spaces.

By contrast, environmental spending was cut by $12 million and the economically ravaged north was barely mentioned.

With 68 cents on every dollar spent on education and health care, Duncan didn't have much cash to play with. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cost-saving plans

Belt-tightening measures aimed at finding $1.5 billion in savings:

- Potential sale of ServiceOntario, which delivers driver's licences and health cards.
- Major agencies are to reduce spending by $200 million, cut 1,500 civil service jobs by 2014 and trim executive compensation packages by 10 per cent.

Campaign promises toe party lines

Election 2011

Help for small business. A boost to post-secondary students. A kick in the shins to the big banks.

It was a day of ideological retrenchment on the campaign trail yesterday as the three major federalist parties retreated to their traditional policy corners for a breather.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper peeled a page from his recent, stillborn budget to re-announce a modest, one-year $1,000 tax credit to help small businesses protect against increases to employment insurance premiums.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Laureen Harper listen to Maria Aragon, 10, during a campaign stop in Winnipeg yesterday. Aragon shot to fame after posting a video on YouTube that was praised by Lady Gaga.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff made his first big policy pitch of the 36-day campaign that culminates May 2: A $1 billion-a-year pledge for tax-free student grants to assist roughly a million Canadian families with college or university costs.

And Jack Layton of the NDP reprised his own hardy perennial: A vow to legislate lower interest rate charges on consumer credit cards.

Even Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe went old school with a rousing defence of French language protections in Quebec.

After three days of often confusing campaign crossfire, Day 4 was about preaching to the choir. THE CANADIAN PRESS

You could get money back. File your taxes and find out.

This tax season you may be eligible for a number of credits and benefits. Visit ontario.ca/taxcredits to see a full list and learn more about qualifying. Or use the Tax Credit Calculator to find out how much you might get back. And remember – the deadline to file your income tax return is April 30.

ontario.ca/taxcredits

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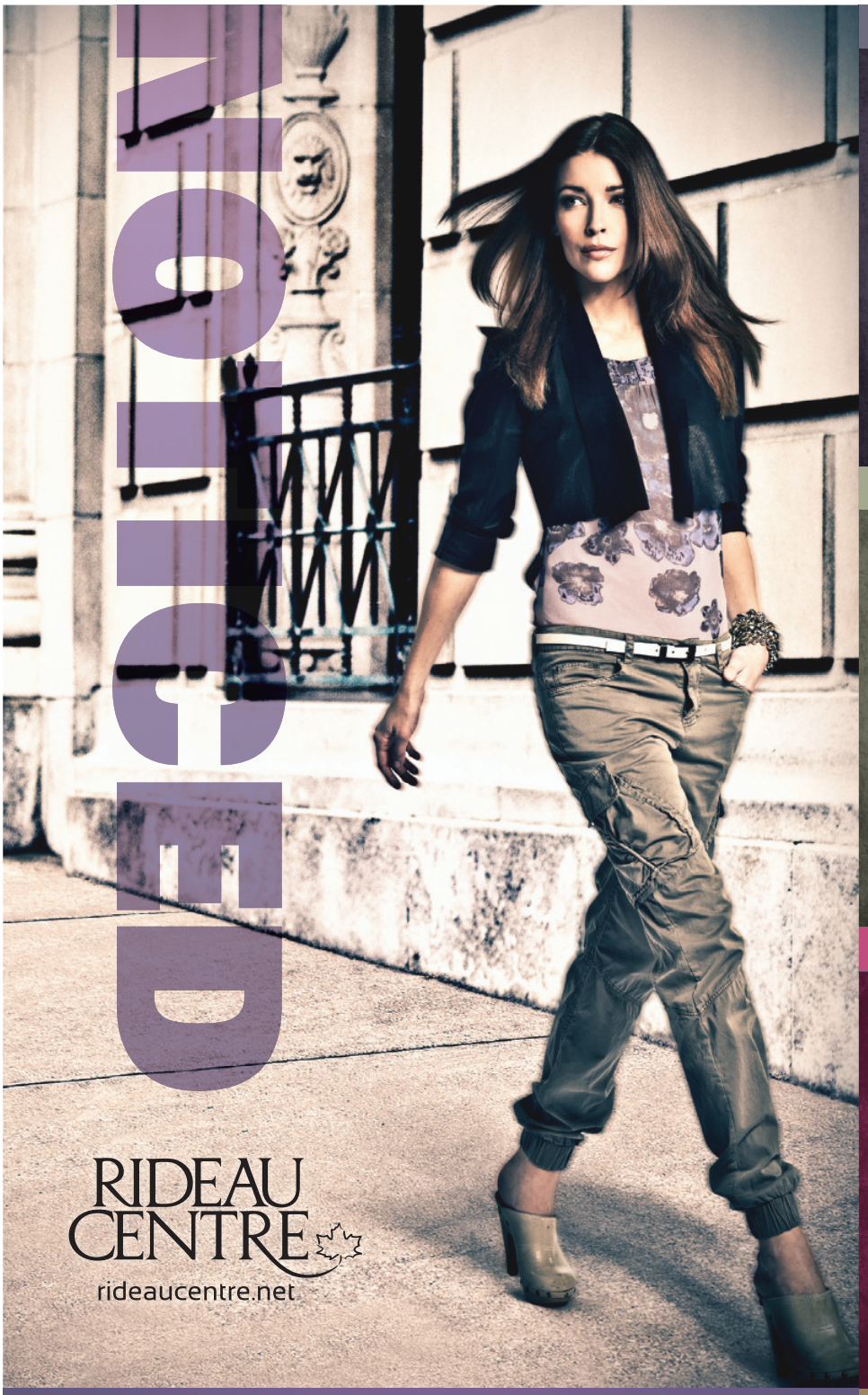
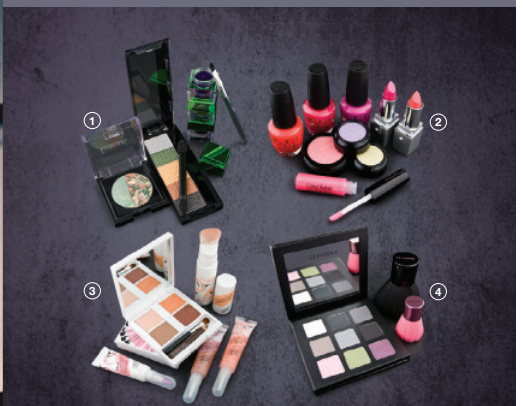


MAKE-UP ESSENTIALS



1 **Shoppers Drug Mart** 1st level • 2 **Caryl Baker Visage** 2nd level
3 **Body Shop** 3rd level • 4 **Sephora** 3rd level

ACCESSORY ESSENTIALS

1 & 2 **Lenscrafters** 3rd level • 3 **Sephora** 3rd level
4 **Shepherd's** 3rd level

SHOE ESSENTIALS

1-4 **Nine West** 3rd level • 5 **Town Shoes** 3rd level • 6 **Lacoste** 2nd level

HANDBAG ESSENTIALS

1 **Aldo** 2nd level • 2 **Town Shoes** 3rd level
3 **Nine West** 3rd level • 4 **Lucky Brand Jeans** 2nd level

It's finally time to start dressing for spring! Visit Rideau Centre and see what's getting noticed this season from the city's best mix of leading retailers.

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2nd Level, Eaton Court

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Fashion Presentations
12 noon – Family
2pm – Women & Men

SPRING FASHION REPORT

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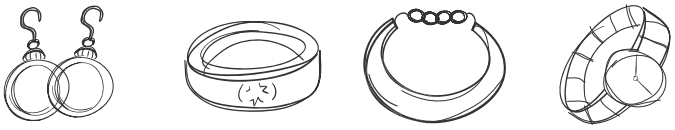

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Talk of arming Libyan rebels not on the table

World leaders agree Gadhafi must go, but stop short of full support for opposition ◐ Qatar plans to help sell oil

World powers agreed yesterday that Moammar Gadhafi should step down after 42 years as Libya's ruler, but did not discuss arming the rebels who are seeking to oust him.

Top diplomats from up to 40 countries met for crisis talks yesterday in London on the future of the North African nation, but British Foreign Secretary William Hague told reporters the subject of arming rebels simply did not come up.

He said Libya was under a UN-mandated arms embargo and that the restrictions "in our view apply to the whole of Libya."

Hague's comments suggest that the UN-backed coalition cobbled together to defend civilians from Gadhafi's onslaught is still hanging back from throwing its entire weight behind the ill-organized rebels, whose exact make-up and motives remain unclear.

But Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Jabr al-Thani seemed to leave the door open to arms sales when he suggested that the issue might be revisited if the aerial campaign fell short of its stated goal of protecting Libyan civilians.

Qatar, which has recognized the rebels as Libya's legitimate representatives, also plans to help them sell crude on the international market. Yet while there has been talk of using Qatar to market Libya's oil for days, details have remained sketchy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rebel retreat

Libyan government tanks and rockets pounded rebel forces — who attempted an assault on Moammar Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte — into full retreat yesterday.

Opposition fighters fleeing in a panicked scramble pleaded for international airstrikes that never came.

Britons cope with wedding fatigue

There's still a month to go until the royal wedding and yet some Britons are already asking: Is it over yet?

While millions around the world are following every detail of the wedding planning — the guest list, the cake, the carriage, the dress — others are desperately trying to tune it out.

For many British businesses, the wedding is good news — bringing in extra tourists and giving a boost to hotels, restaurants, shops and royal-related tourist attractions.

But there also will be an exodus, with several million Britons heading abroad, thanks to the lucky timing of the wedding day — a holiday for most — between the Easter weekend and the May Day public holiday. Clever employees quickly calculated they could get an 11-day break by taking only three days off work.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Daniil Korotkikh found a bottle with a letter on a beach in the village of Morskoye, 80 kilometres northwest of Kaliningrad, Russia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/VIKTOR GUSEINOV

Message in a bottle was 24 years old

Nearly a quarter-century after a German boy tossed a message in a bottle off a ship in the Baltic Sea, he's received an answer.

A 13-year-old Russian, Daniil Korotkikh, was walking with his parents on a beach when he saw something glittering in the sand. "It looked like a German beer bottle with a ceramic plug, and there was a message inside," he said

His father, who knows schoolboy German, translated the letter, carefully wrapped in cellophane.

It said: "My name is Frank, and I'm five years old. My dad and I are travelling on a ship to Denmark. If you find this letter, please write back to me and I will write back to you."

The letter, dated 1987, included an address in the town of Coesfeld.

The boy in the letter, Frank Uesbeck, is now 29. His parents still live at the letter's address.

The Russian boy and the German man met each other earlier this month via an Internet video link.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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April 11 to July 2, 2011

FULL TIME

4 weeks (60 hours in class and 60 hours online)

FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (4 Levels)

April 26 to May 20, 2011

Level 1 and 3 – 9 am to noon;
Level 2 and 4 – 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

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Level 2 and 4 – 9 am to noon

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China	1.9 ¢/min	Poland	1.9 ¢/min
Colombia	from 3.9 ¢/min	Russia	from 1.9 ¢/min
Cuba	89.9 ¢/min	South Korea	2.9 ¢/min
El Salvador	9.9 ¢/min	Sri Lanka	9.9 ¢/min
Germany	1.9 ¢/min	Trinidad	4.9 ¢/min
India	2.9 ¢/min	U.A.E.	14.9 ¢/min
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CLASS ACTION

Fix is in on card fees: Lawsuit

Visa, MasterCard and the country's biggest banks conspired to fix the fees charged to businesses that accept payment by credit card, a class-action lawsuit alleges. Mary Watson, a furniture store owner in Vancouver, filed the lawsuit in the Supreme Court of B.C. on behalf of merchants who accept credit cards. Under the current model, credit card companies and banks charge a fee that varies depending on the type of card. Greg McMullen, the plaintiffs' lawyer, says the lawsuit seeks to allow businesses to decide which cards they accept and whether to add a surcharge for premium points and rewards cards. The banks and credit card companies deny the allegations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PHOTOS AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 37.62 (13,930.35)	+ 0.20¢ ($102.6 US)

Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
+ 81¢ US ($104.79 US)	$4.263 US (– 18.5¢ US)

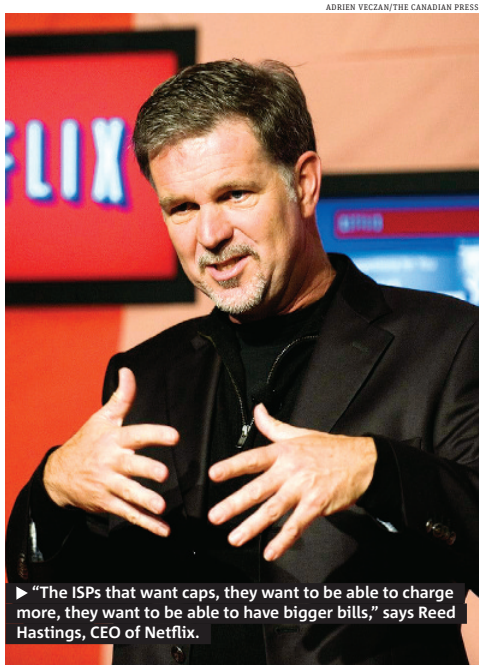
Gold contracts $1,416.20 US (– $3.70 US)

Canadians fret about finances

Consumer confidence fell sharply this month as Canadians grew more worried about their financial security, the Conference Board of Canada said yesterday. Confidence fell to 83.7 from 89.3 in February, and about one-quarter of Canadians said their financial situation had worsened over the past six months. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Data caps drive up Internet bills: Netflix

ADRIEN VECZAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ "The ISPs that want caps, they want to be able to charge more, they want to be able to have bigger bills," says Reed Hastings, CEO of Netflix.

ISPs should not charge dollars per gigabyte in overage fees, CEO says

Canadian Internet providers are using data caps to inflate their profits, not provide better service, says Reed Hastings, CEO of Netflix.

The video-streaming company has released a plan to combat low downloading allowances, but Hastings said yesterday that customers shouldn't have to ration their data use. The true cost of that data is less than a penny per gigabyte and shrinking, he said, though Internet providers have disputed that figure.

On Monday, Netflix reeled out options to control consumption of data. Users can still watch a movie or TV show with the best available quality, which can take more than two gigabytes per hour to stream. But a new default setting — at a lesser quality — will consume only 300 megabytes an hour.

"Internet traffic is extremely cheap and the problem is there's not much competition and that's why you get these big prices."
REED HASTINGS, NETFLIX CEO, ON DATA-CAP BILLS

With the new setting, watching 30 hours of content a month would transfer about nine gigabytes of data, which Netflix notes would come under the caps of most Internet plans.

U.S.-based Netflix, which launched in Canada in September, is on track to add its one-millionth Canadian customer this summer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Heart Joint Focus Eye

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IT'S THE END OF RELIGION AS WE KNOW IT

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

Lost in the manufactured frenzy of the fourth federal election call in seven years is a much more important story.

According to a mathematical formula devised by a bunch of professors, Canada is one of nine countries losing its religion.

The others include the usual godless suspects: The Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Finland, but there are also a couple of surprises, such as Ireland, which has only recently emerged from mandatory catechism classes, and Switzerland, land of theologians. Australia and New Zealand, which have already sent the Queen packing, are also in danger of tossing God off the cart.

It's a progression and if we keep telling the census we don't belong to any organized religion, there eventually won't be any organized religion. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy, which explains perhaps why the Harper Government (trademark registered), a champion of organized religion, sank the long-census form and its snoopy religion questions.

Don't ask, don't tell.

If you are a regular churchgoer, you won't like the way it's going. More than half of young Canadians aged 15 to 29 claim to have no religious identity. In 100 years, we will all be sleeping in Sunday morning.

The same thing is going on, though to a lesser degree, in the more God-fearing U.S., where 25 to 30 per cent of 20-somethings have no religious affiliation.

The reason? They're tired of right-wing geezers hijacking the agenda and are voting with their feet.

Speaking of right-wing geezers, Pope Benedict XVI is still making pronouncements from the Vatican.

I suppose that's his prerogative when it comes to matters moral, though recent musings on condoms from a celibate 83-year-old white guy didn't do much to enlighten the faithful.

But that hasn't stifled his enthusiasm for pronouncements. Not long ago, he dabbled in quantum physics and claimed to have it on good authority that God was behind the Big Bang — the creation of the universe.

You have to ask: How does he know? Especially because Stephen Hawking, the world's foremost quantum physicist, says the universe was able to kick-start itself thanks to the law of gravity. No God involved.

Take it on my authority, says the Pope, but according to the aforementioned professors, just sayin' it doesn't do it any more.

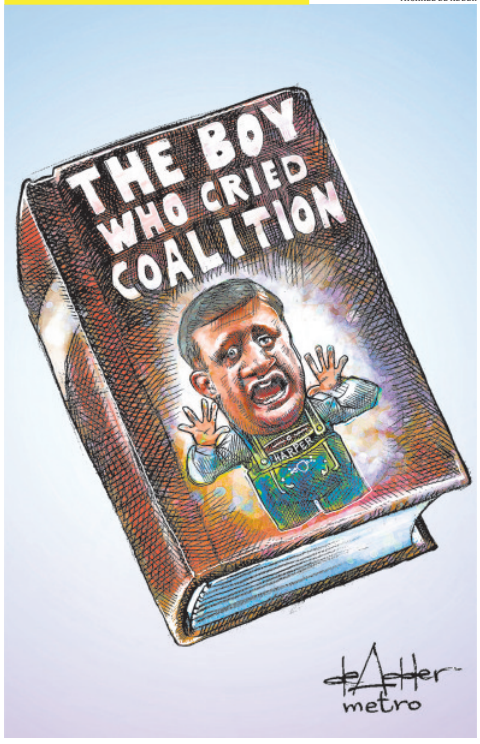
Too bad that hasn't stopped Hawking himself from making baseless pronouncements not grounded in science: He warned recently that humankind should avoid contact with aliens at all costs, since they're likely to be equipped with superior firepower — and hostile.

Not sure why. Maybe God has abandonment issues and he's on their side.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Cheer up, it's good news

Worth mentioning

Good news begets better people.

That's the conclusion of new research from the University of British Columbia that says people are inspired to do good by reading media stories about selfless acts by Good Samaritans, instead of negative stories.

Lead author Karl Aquino says the news media has a tendency to celebrate bad behaviour, citing the coverage of the recent exploits of Charlie Sheen and articles that focus on crime.

He said four separate studies found a direct link between a person's exposure to media accounts of extraordinary virtue and their yearning to change the world.

In one experiment, people exposed to stories of uncommon goodness gave 24 per cent more money to charity than those exposed to reports that were merely positive.

Aquino said the findings could have implications in crisis situations like the recent disasters in Japan, because focusing on examples of extraordinary goodness within the crisis may be a more effective way to encourage people to help than inundating them with stories of desperation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inspirational

How do you unwind after a hectic day?

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Metro Minute with Indian troupe

See Indian myth and legend unfold before your eyes tonight as gods, goddesses, warriors, saints and demons take the stage at the Canadian Museum of Civilization Theatre. India's world-renowned Kerala Kalamandalam Kathakali Troupe combines traditional dance, theatre, and elaborate makeup and costumes with a vibrant musical soundscape to present entertaining tales from India's mythology, particularly the Hindu epic the Mahabharata. Tonight's performance, presented in partnership with the High Commission of India and the India Council for Cultural Relations, begins at 7:30. Tickets are free and available at the Museum box office, or by calling 819-776-7000 (service charges apply). METRO

CONTRIBUTED

▶ India's world-renowned Kerala Kalamandalam Kathakali Troupe will perform tonight at the Canadian Museum of Civilization Theatre.

2 scene

Rosie

The Oprah Winfrey Show is shutting down at the end of the season, but the lights won't be going out at Winfrey's studio in Chicago. That's because Rosie O'Donnell's new talk show will be produced at Harpo Studios on Chicago's West Side. O'Donnell is slated to return to daytime TV this Fall on OWN.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scoop! Perez Hilton has deal for children's book, 'The Boy With Pink Hair'

HANDOUT

▶ Hop director Tim Hill credits Russell Brand's voicing of the lead animated character for bringing the movie an edgier feel.

Down the rabbit hole

Russell Brand-voiced renegade hare draws the audience into this altered children's tale
Hop blends family entertainment with an edgier approach for this physical comedy flick

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

There have literally been hundreds of portrayals of Santa Claus in cinema. But the Easter Bunny — not so much. But with this Friday's release of Hop, things may finally change for the egg-hiding hare.

"I don't think the Easter Bunny ever sparkled in Hollywood's mind as a character that could be explored and just kind of be invented, whereas Santa has its own myth," said Hop director Tim Hill. "(Everyone knows) there's supposed to be this Easter Bunny that delivers baskets and we have Easter egg hunts but that's about it so it presents an opportunity to create your own mythology."

In Hop's case, that means inventing a secret world on Easter Island where the Easter Bunny and his chick workers craft candy and painted eggs year-round. It also means that when it comes to his son taking over the family business, the Russell Brand-voiced renegade rabbit runs away to play rock and roll.

"It's hard to imagine having made the movie, doing it without Russell Brand because he brings that edgy side to it," said Hill, who admits there was plenty of adlibbing in the recording studio. "His mind works so fast; he wants to alter the line and play with it and he wants to improve it. My philosophy with him was to let him bring what he wanted to bring because most of it is great."

"It's hard to imagine having made the movie, doing it without Russell Brand because he brings that edgy side to it."
TIM HILL

Hill is a slight renegade himself. Having majored in French literature, family entertainment was not his life's agenda. But with hits like Alvin and the Chipmunks behind him, it's certainly proven an area of expertise.

"I love to see kids laugh," said Hill. "And I've always been a big fan of physical comedy. I just think there's a whole visual side of comedy that all ages appreciate, but especially kids."

Nuance

Tim Hill on Russell Brand:

▶ **Quote** "If you can keep him within the parameters of a family movie, he really is a good actor," said Hill of Russell Brand. "He was able to get all those nuances and it makes a complex character and I think that's a big part of what makes an animated character work."

N.Y. hotels balking at the Sheen show

Big hotels refusing to house Charlie and Co. as speaking tour kicks off

Charlie Sheen is coming to New York for his speaking tour, but first he needs to find a place to stay — and no hotel in the city wants him, according to Page Six.

"Many of the big New York hotels don't want the drama," a source says. "He is now looking at renting a private residence."

But a source close to Sheen claims the problems have all been logistical.

"The real issue is finding him a hotel that allows smoking. He has to be able to smoke," the source says. "And it's hard to find a place that will accommodate him, plus his entourage that will be more than 30, including the lighting people and of course the goddesses."

METRO

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

Charlie Sheen

Prince Harry

Royals manage to keep William's bachelor party a private affair

It looks like Prince Harry has what it takes to be a great best man for his older brother, Prince William, as the young royal managed to host William's bachelor party over the weekend without the press finding out.

"Yes, Prince William celebrated his stag over the weekend," reps for the royal family say.

"The location remains private but it was in the U.K."

But at least one source is being a bit more specific, telling Us Weekly it was a private affair.

"The stag weekend was at (friend and Prince Charles' godson) Hugh Van Cutsem's father's estate in Norfolk. Very private but a nice big group of friends."

METRO

Talking points

Racy pics of Aguilera set to leak?

PEOPLE Christina Aguilera may have a racy photo scandal on her hands, as a digital storage card containing hundreds of the singer's intimate photographs was found in a French hotel room, according to Radar Online. The images allegedly show the singer at Nicole Richie's bachelorette party and in bed with boyfriend Matt Rutler. A man who claims he discovered the card approached Radar, offering to sell the images. METRO

Perry's mom peddles book

PEOPLE Katy Perry's mother, Mary Perry Hudson, is shopping a book about how her daughter's fame, risque wardrobe and relationship with Russell Brand have challenged her faith, according to the New York Post.

In the proposal, Hudson reportedly recalls the conflict she felt over Perry's first big hit.

"She sang out, 'I kissed a girl, and I liked it,' while thousands joined her. One part of my heart soared," Hudson writes. "The other part broke for the thousands of hungry souls being fed something that didn't nourish their spirit, but fed their flesh."

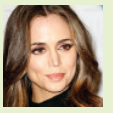
METRO

Celebrity tweets

Charlie Sheen [@charliesheen] Like a Dinosaur Stampede from middle earth RAGING atop Col. Kilgore's main rotor, our assault must be EPIC. The Truth is our rocket fuel.

Elizabeth Banks [@ElizabethBanks] I was rocking a new denim shirt, feeling pretty cute until the huz mentioned I looked like an off-hours Jay Leno. G'bye new shirt.

Albert Brooks [@AlbertBrooks] I used to feel a sense of accomplishment when I wrote a screenplay, or a book, or had a child. Now I'm going for sentences here. Damn.



Eliza Dushku [@elizadushku] Damn you Pirates Booty! (just ate the whole bag by accident)

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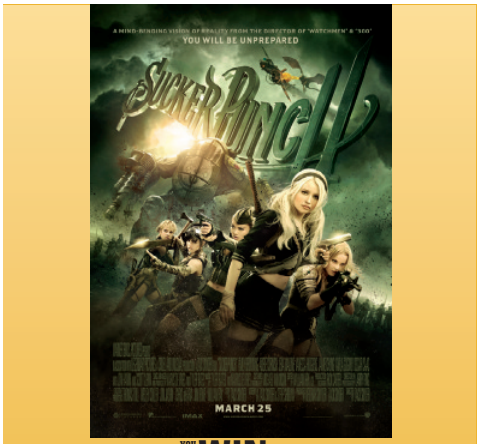

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3 life

Get out and enjoy Vancouver's spring

The sun is out on Canada's West Coast and there are plenty of great outdoor activities to immerse yourself in Kayak, hike, walk, bike, rollerblade or standup paddle boarding

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

People walk along the seawall around Stanley Park in Vancouver.

The cherry blossoms are out, the crocuses are peeking out of the dirt and vitamin-D deficient Vancouverites are blinded by a bright orb in the sky that they have not seen much of since winter began.

Sure, while the rest of Canada suffered through whiteouts and nursed back injuries from shovelling, residents of the West Coast city, for the most part, were in-line skating through the season.

But the arrival of spring is still cause for celebration for locals and visitors coming in from the cold of a real Canadian winter.

From the mountains to the sea and everywhere in between, if you want to take advantage of the best the region has to offer, you better bring good running shoes.

Sea kayaking in Deep Cove

Pack some granola, hop into a kayak and make your way up the Indian Arm, known for its calm waters and stunning vista of the shoreline, forests and mountains. Deep Cove Canoe & Kayak Centre rents equipment and can provide a few basic safety tips to get you on your way.

For more info, visit deepcovekayak.com.

Sweating on the Grouse Grind

At Grouse Mountain every year, thousands of Vancouverites try to outdo each other racing up this gruelling 2.9-kilometre climb.

Plan for about a 90-minute trek, or track your time on the Grind Timer in true local fashion — fastest man's time is 23 minutes 48 seconds, while the fastest woman's time is 34 minutes nine seconds.

For more info, visit grousemountain.com.

Walk, bike or blade the Stanley Park seawall

This popular 22-kilometre pathway stretches along Vancouver's waterfront, from downtown, around Stanley Park, False Creek and Granville Island to Kitsilano Beach.

The best way to get the local experience is to don sunglasses and yoga pants, grab a large Starbucks coffee and head out for a brisk walk while listening to your IPod. A great place to start is at Stanley Park.

For more info, visit vancouver.ca/parks/parks/stanley/seawall.htm.

Stand up and ... paddle

Vancouverites have taken yet another liking to a fast-growing fitness craze.

In standup paddling, a paddler, armed with a long oar, stands on top of a surfboard and navigates the water using strokes as one would in a canoe.

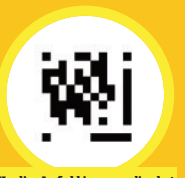
For more info, visit ecomarine.com.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travel in brief

Chinese tourism officials say an agreement signed this week in Richmond, B.C., will help boost travel to Qingdao, China, a coastal city known internationally for its beer. Canadian tour companies will promote travel to the city.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Harding Icefield is a rewarding but strenuous day hike in Alaska

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Re-discover the ByWard Market

GIZELLE LAU
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

Contrary to popular belief, Ottawa is not the same boring city people suffered through on their Grade 6 field trip. In fact, all the recent uproar on Parliament Hill just goes to show that our capital city is anything but dull.

It's Ottawa's historic ByWard Market that has really become one of the city's hottest attractions. Considered one of the oldest farmers' markets in Canada,

ByWard Market was first established in 1826 by Colonel John By, builder of the Rideau Canal. A recent revitalization within the past decade has produced an influx of independent art galleries, eco-friendly stores, cafes, restaurants, bakeries and one-of-a-kind designer clothing shops that attracts an average of 50,000 visitors on a summer weekend, and more than six million per year.

So if you're planning a visit to Ottawa this spring or summer, here are some tried-and-true suggestions for the best food experiences in ByWard Market.

Take advantage of the fresh, local, and seasonal produce from late spring through fall, and visit one of the 260 farmer's market and artisan stands at ByWard Market Square for fresh fruits, vegetables, or maple syrup. While you're at the square, be sure to visit Le Moulin de Provence bakery where you can pick up an "Obama Cookie," made famous by the U.S. President's visit in February 2009.

GIZELLE LAU/METRO

▶ Murray Street restaurant was named one of Canada's 10 Best New Restaurants of 2009.

Named one of Canada's 10 Best New Restaurants of 2009, Murray Street Kitchen Wine Charcuterie offers upper Canadian farmhouse cooking with a nose-to-tail philosophy. Local cheeses, house-made charcuterie, $13 weekend brunch, and plates like "head & shoulders, knees & toes" just goes to show that Murray Street Kitchen is the whole package (and then some).

For something a little more rowdy and prone to sing-alongs, don't miss Friday and Saturday nights at Fat Tuesday's, where you can enjoy some good 'ol fashioned dueling pianos while noshing on typical Louisiana fare like jambalaya, crab cakes or blackened chicken.

Whether it's a giant stack of banana pancakes for breakfast, four-cheese poutine or one of their 12 burger options for dinner, Zak's Diner serves up diner-sized portions of comfort food 24 hours a day, 7 days a week — a favourite amongst University of Ottawa students and those reeling after a wild night at ByWard Market's clubs, pubs and bars.

Last but not least, a trip to ByWard isn't complete without a stop at the world's very first BeaverTails stand, for one of their fried, doughnut–like treats, traditionally topped with cinnamon and sugar.

More info

- **Location.** The market is conveniently located just a few blocks from attractions like the Chateau Fairmont Laurier, Rideau Canal, Rideau Centre, Parliament Hill, the National Gallery of Canada and Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica.
- **Info.** For more information or to plan your trip, go to ottawatourism.ca.

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Airfares

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Las Vegas $238
Travel May 3 - May 10/dl — + taxes & fees $121

Vancouver one-way $249
Travel May 4/ac — + taxes & fees $89

Hong Kong $839
Travel Apr 20 - May 10/ua — + taxes & fees $292

Sydney $999
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North America

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Newfoundland Starter Package
Air + 2 Nights 4-Star — $454
Delta St John's Hotel — + taxes & fees $149
INCLUDES accom in downtown St John's with views of St John's Narrows. Departs June 22/ggv/ws.

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights + Cirque du Soleil — $479
Circus Circus — + taxes & fees $127
INCLUDES accom on the Las Vegas strip. Departs May 1/ggv/dl. BONUS tickets to select Cirque du Soleil or other Las Vegas show included.

Halifax Air + 3 Nights — $514
Citadel Halifax Hotel — + taxes & fees $135
INCLUDES accom in the heart of downtown. Departs Jun10/ggv/ws. ADD Historic Halifax City Tour for $62.

New York City Air + 3 Nights — $679
Excelsior Hotel — + taxes & fees $115
INCLUDES accom close to Central Park. Departs Apr 25/ggv/dl. ADD theatre tickets to *Billy Elliott, Mamma Mia, Memphis* or *Phantom* for $129.

Vacations

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Roganstown Hotel & Country Club — + taxes & fees $400
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Frankfurt & Berlin
Air + 8 Nights + Rail — $1289
Movenpick Hotel Frankfurt, Citadines Berlin — + taxes & fees $749
INCLUDES 4 nights 4-star Frankfurt accom, 3-day German Rail Pass and 4 nights apartment style accom in Berlin. Departs May 10/thn/ggr/af.

Spain Air + 3 Nights + Running with the Bulls Tour — from $1299
Catalonia Aragon Hotel — + taxes & fees $647
INCLUDES air to Pamplona, 5-day Pamplona Camping tour, air to Barcelona and 3 nights central Barcelona accom. HIGHLIGHTS San Fermin Opening Ceremony, "Running with the Bulls" & San Sebastian. Departs Jul 4/ggv/tpd/ws/lx/ib.

Algarve
Air + 14 Nights 4-Star — $1579
Pestana Levante — + taxes & fees $512
INCLUDES clifftop resort-style in Armacao de Pera. BONUS buffet breakfasts included. Departs May 3/ggv/co.

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Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star — $498*
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Departs Apr 4/nol/c6.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star — $565
Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa — + taxes & fees $335
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Legoland hits Florida

Orlando area gets another major tourist attraction in October 50 million Lego blocks used in park

CHIP LITHERLAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/LEGOLAND FLORIDA, MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS GROUP

▶ A view of Legoland Florida during a preview tour in Winter Haven, Fla.

Legoland officials said they are counting on the popularity of the little plastic building blocks to draw families to their newest theme park, which will open this fall near Orlando.

Incorporating as many as 50 million of the iconic Lego bricks in rides and attractions geared toward children two to 12, Legoland Florida is under construction in sleepy Winter Haven, a 45-minute drive south of Walt Disney World and the other main Orlando parks. The opening is planned for October, but a firm date has not been set.

It will be the largest of five Legolands in the world and the only one on the U.S. East Coast, with others in California, England, Germany and Denmark, where the toy company was founded. The 60.7-hectare park is being built on the former site of Cypress Gardens, one of Florida's earliest theme parks. Cypress Gardens opened in the 1930s but closed in 2009, unable to compete with attractions clustered closer to Orlando.

Legoland is retaining the old park's gardens and famous water ski shows, and eventually will add its water park to the mix. Also left over from Cypress Gardens is the Flying Island, which raises riders 53 metres in the air for a bird's eye view of the grounds.

"I think Legoland has its place in the theme-park community," park general manager Adrian Jones said Wednesday, looking out over a vast

FLICKR: LOIMERE

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▶ General manager Adrian Jones, centre, as he speaks to the media during a preview tour at Legoland Florida in Winter Haven. The park will be the largest of the five Legolands around the world.

construction site where roller-coaster tracks hint at what will eventually take shape there. "We focus primarily and always on families with children aged two to 12. And we're good at that. We don't try to be all things to all people."

Besides four gentle roller coasters and other family rides, visitors will get to see Legoland's trademark models crafted from Lego bricks, including miniature skylines of famous cities, a castle and jungle animals, with exhibits ranging in size from intricate to life-size to larger-than-life. Of course, there will be plenty of places where kids to get their hands on Legos and build things for themselves.

"We have three or four key areas where we can expand and build rides as the park grows," Jones said.

Jill Swidler, the park's marketing manager, said the focus for the first 18 months or so will be drawing visitors who live within a two-hour radius, including the Orlando and Tampa areas. Then they'll make a bigger a push to divert families away Walt Disney World and the other Orlando attractions for a day trip. She said the Lego brand name will distinguish it from Cypress Gardens, which besides having grown outdated was hurt by its distance from the other attractions.

Inspired by the Lego bricks first named by a Danish toy maker in 1932, the first Legoland opened in Dillund, Denmark, in 1968. Parks in Windsor, England, outside London, and in Carlsbad, California, went up in the 1990s, and a Legoland opened in Gunzburg, Germany, in 2002.

A single-day ticket to Legoland Florida is being offered now for $65 US plus tax for adults and $55 US plus tax for children three to 12 and seniors. Kids two and under get in free. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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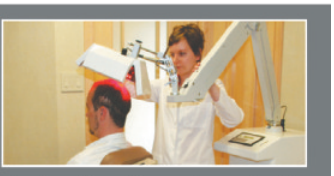

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The Caribbean has plenty of great spots to visit, but Antigua's quality, and quantity, of beaches puts it near the top of any list With 365 beaches, you won't lack for options, but don't miss the pink sand of Half Moon Bay Beach

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

There are a lot of beautiful beaches in the Caribbean, but not many places can boast a beach for every day of the year.

The island of Antigua is said to have 365 beaches, one for each day of the calendar. You'd need a heck of a lot of 40 SPF sunscreen to spend time on all of them, but a select few are more than worth a leisurely visit.

You may believe you're hallucinating from one too many tropical drinks when you hit the pink sand. That's right the pink sand of secluded and stunning Half Moon Bay beach, located only about five minutes from Freetown village on the southeast coast. I was immediately struck by the mile of fine powder pink sand that curved around the edge of the bay. Very weird, but still very cool.

The snorkelling and wind surfing were pretty impressive here also. I was glad to see that familiar Caribbean white sand at Galley Bay beach on the northwest coast near Five Islands Village. I happened to show up here during a very special time, when baby sea turtles were hatching and making that long first journey to the sea.

I almost wanted to help out a few of those cute little leatherbacks trying to make their way to the water, by nudging them along, but sea turtles and nesting areas are heavily protected here, so I was content to watch nature unfold in all it's glory.

A few days later, I found myself once again wiling away the hours at yet another gorgeous venue, the aptly named Jolly Beach on the west coast. As I basked in the turquoise blue luke warm waters, watching a few tropical fish swim lazily by, I thought to myself, "that's three beaches down … only 362 more to go". Nice work if you can get it.

Other cool things to do

- **Visit Stingray City.** Get up close and personal with tame stingrays, so gentle they are known as the puppy dogs of the sea! You can learn how to handle and feed these gentle giants, and swim alongside them.
- **Check out the Nightlife in St. John.** Limbo dancers and calypso singers galore can be found at various casinos, bars and restaurants. Also some great nightclubs and discos.

FLICKR: 3NEUS

▶ The island of Antigua has some beautiful architecture.

It's time to usher in spring

After a long winter, it's time to look forward to warmer weather and lighter eats Check out these healthy dishes

ROSE REISMAN
FOOD@METRONEWS. CA

BOTH PHOTOS: ROSE REISMAN

▶ This tuna salad with roasted vegetables is filling enough to be an entrée.

This Fresh Tuna Salad Nicoise with Roasted Vegetables is my favourite salad. It's also a perfect springtime main course and best with good-quality raw tuna. You can, however, substitute canned tuna packed in water.

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with foil and lightly coat it with cooking spray.
2. Place potatoes, tomatoes, onions and asparagus on baking sheet. Lightly coat vegetables with cooking spray and bake for 10 minutes. Turn tomatoes and asparagus after 5 minutes, and remove from oven after 10 minutes. Continue cooking red onion for another 5 minutes, then remove from the oven. Continue cooking potatoes until tender turning halfway through.
3. Meanwhile, preheat a nonstick grill pan lightly coated with cooking spray over medium-high heat. Sear tuna on each side for about 1 to 2 minutes, or until outside of the fish is just cooked but the inside is rare. Take the tuna off the heat immediately. To stop the cooking process, place in the refrigerator immediately.
4. Arrange spinach, cucumber and olives on a large serving platter. Top with roasted vegetables.
5. To prepare the dressing, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, anchovies, garlic, mustard, salt and pepper. Pour the dressing over the salad and top with the dill. Slice the tuna thinly and arrange it on top of the salad.

Ingredients:

Salad
- 6 fingerling potatoes, sliced in half lengthwise
- 12 grape tomatoes
- 3 large slices red onion, about 1/4 inch thick
- 8 asparagus spears, trimmed
- 12 oz raw tuna (or canned flaked tuna packed in water)
- 4 cups baby spinach
- 3/4 cup diced cucumber
- 10 kalamata olives

Dressing
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 4 anchovy fillets chopped
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
- pinch of salt and pepper

Garnish
- 3 Tbsp chopped fresh dill

Frittata With Sautéed Mushrooms

To enhance the flavour of this dish, use wild mushrooms such as oyster, shiitake or portobello.

Button mushrooms work as well, but be sure to sauté on a higher heat to ensure that the excess liquid evaporates.

Egg substitutes are used to lower the fat, calories and cholesterol in your recipes. You can find them in the egg section of your supermarket.

Ingredients:

- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/2 tsp chopped garlic
- 3/4 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup egg substitute (or 2 large eggs)
- 3 egg whites
- 1/3 cup low-fat milk
- 1 cup fresh baby spinach
- 1/2 cup shredded havarti
- 2 Tbsp chopped parsley

Preparation:

1. Lightly coat a small nonstick skillet with cooking spray. Add the oil and set over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic and sauté for 3 minutes, or until the onion is soft and lightly browned. Add the mushrooms and red pepper and cook for 5 minutes, or until the mushrooms are slightly dried. Set aside.
2. Wipe out the skillet and respray. Combine the egg substitute, egg whites and milk. Cook for 4 minutes over medium heat or until the egg begins to set. Add the onion and mushroom mixture, spinach and cheese. Cover and cook another 2 minutes, or until the cheese melts.
3. Slip the frittata onto a serving platter with a spatula. Cut into wedges, garnish with parsley and serve immediately.

ROSE REISMAN

Women, take the page

Women in the Field symposium unveils that inequality remains an issue in newsrooms ◆ Panelists agree that executive positions in journalism are still dominated by men

"Not only have we not won the war, we can't shut up."
JUDITH TIMSON,
FREELANCE WRITER AND COLUMNIST

Timeline

Women in Journalism

1846
American journalist Margaret Fuller becomes the first female foreign correspondent and travels to Europe.

1941
Eleanor Roosevelt holds women-only news conferences that contribute to the rise of female reporters.

1976
Barbara Walters becomes the first female to co-anchor network evening news.

1990
The International Women's Media Foundation is founded with the goal of strengthening women's role in media worldwide as a means to further freedom of the press.

2007
Katie Couric becomes the first solo female anchor of the evening news for a major network.

KYLA SERGEJEW
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

With the news of Lisa LaFlamme replacing Lloyd Robertson as CTV National News head anchor, you'd think women had finally won the battle for equality. But the recent symposium held at Ryerson University in Toronto on March 22, Women in the Field, uncovered otherwise.

Panelists focused on the ongoing struggle for equal treatment in the newsroom while addressing topics ranging from parenthood and success to international assignments and occupational stability.

Kathy English, public editor at the Toronto Star, said most women she's spoken to feel there is still a glass ceiling holding women back in the industry.

"These days any inequality you experience is subtle, [and with women] there is a sense of don't rock the boat," said English. "It's easy to say look how bad it used to be, but it's not good enough yet."

Although there is an increasing presence of women in newsrooms and journalism schools, panelists agreed executive positions are still very much held by older, white males.

"The reality is that men are still in charge in much of the world and women continue to defer to them," said Karen Levine, documentary editor at CBC.

CBC director Sadia Zaman knows all too well how discrimination, not only against sex but also race, can put constraints on opportunities.

"It's very discouraging as a woman of colour in this industry," Zaman said. "If you are a woman of colour, you will not see yourself in the executive positions here in Canada."

ISTOCK

▶ Women have made waves in the journalism field within the last century, but is the tide high enough?

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Hit stress with your best shot

Young students at Palooka's Boxing Club in Halifax are learning discipline, courage and stamina with the help of a punching bag

About a half dozen kids wearing shorts and T-shirts gather around Tyson Cave at a Halifax boxing club. Some look sheepish, others confused.

The 29-year-old accomplished boxer isn't about to go easy on his young students, who've come after school to learn the basics of the contact sport.

While running laps, Cave caught one boy slowing to a walk. Now everyone has to do 20 pushups to make up for it.

"Boxing is a very dedicated sport and I tell all my kids if you're not dedicated 100 per cent, you're in the wrong sport," says Cave, a multi-time national amateur champion with a 14-1 record as a professional.

"I decided to dedicate myself 120 per cent so therefore I was successful."

The Halifax native, who's known as the Prince of Hali in boxing circles, works as a head coach at Palooka's Boxing Club. Five days a week, the facility offers free boxing and mixed martial arts classes for youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

On this day, some of the kids who've come to practise their jab are paying members of the club. Others, like Shyraya Sullivan, have dropped by the airy, brick-walled space to take advantage of the free program.

Sullivan, a sturdy Grade 6 student who looks older than her 12 years, takes powerful swipes at a punching bag with her blue boxing gloves, stopping occasionally to breathe a heavy sigh. Cave braces himself against the bag and shouts out encouragement, coaxing Sullivan to hit harder.

After only a month of training alongside her 14-year-old brother, Sullivan is already dreaming of competing one day. She says she boxes five days a week and has no intention of quitting now.

"I think it's a good way to stay fit and have fun," says Sullivan, her dark hair pulled into a high ponytail.

"I learned how if I get into a conflict, how to use my discipline and to not punch somebody or get into a fight with them."

"I'm living proof that if you do give a kid a chance, he can succeed and he can become something"

TYSON CAVE, HEAD COACH AT PALOOKA'S BOXING CLUB

Discipline is a word that's thrown around here as often as punches. It's one of the key skills Cave tries to teach his students.

He says the purpose of the after-school program is to give all youth — regardless of background — a place to go, make friends, learn responsibility and stay out of trouble and off the streets.

The club, owned by well-known Halifax entrepreneur and long-time boxing enthusiast Mickey MacDonald, funds the program itself.

While the club attracts boxers from all over the city, it's no coincidence that it's located on Gottingen Street, a gritty thoroughfare punctuated by small businesses, apartments, government offices, a methadone clinic and a public library. But despite its rough-and-tumble reputation, the street — situated at the edge of the downtown core — has begun to show signs of revitalization in recent years.

Gottingen Street is also home to Uniacke Square, a neighbourhood consisting of low-income housing that has seen its share of violent crime and drugs. It's also where Cave says he spent part of his youth getting into trouble and "trying to be a man while still being a kid from a rough area."

At 14, before Palooka's existed, Cave says he walked into another boxing club on a whim. He recalls the terrifying rush of jumping into the ring for the first time, beads of nervous sweat forming on his skin.

He also remembers how it felt to lose and the pact he made with himself to never face an opponent unprepared again. Boxing gave him something positive to focus on.

"My family didn't have very much money so I picked a sport that all you needed was your hands," says Cave, who won the World Boxing Council's Continental Americas super bantamweight title earlier this year. "I was getting into some trouble and boxing straightened me out."

For those young people already involved in boxing, Cave cautions that it's not an automatic career. Just one injury can take a boxer out of the ring for good, which is why he pushes his students to hit the books as hard — if not harder — than the punching bags.

But Cave also tells his students that hard work will pay off.

He calls it "chasing the dragon" — never giving up, always striving for success. It's how Cave feels about his own career and the kids he's helping to train.

"(I'm) living proof that if you do give a kid a chance, he can succeed and he can become something," he says. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Shyraya Sullivan participates in a free boxing program to encourage neighbourhood kids to have fun and get fit while learning the basics of the sport.

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DO NOT CALL IT 'HUMAN RIGHTS'

ISTOCK

▶ In human rights tribunals, the odds are generally stacked against the employer.

Employers often complain that human rights tribunals are stacked against them. One employer's recent experience, related below, demonstrates why.

After a night of drinking at a company-sponsored retreat in North Carolina, Anne-Marie Sutton slipped into a bathing suit and joined some colleagues in a hot tub.

Sutton, a contractor for an Ontario accounting firm, had travelled with the company to the retreat. Alcohol flowed freely, and when another guest starting flirting with her, Sutton reciprocated. Once in the hot tub, they starting making out.

One of the witnesses who later testified said that Sutton appeared "into it" and looked "like she was having a good time."

However, after returning home from the retreat, Sutton suddenly claimed that she had been drugged and sexually assaulted in the hot tub by the guest that she had made out with and a partner from the firm. Sutton quickly resigned from her job and suggested that she had been raped.

Dissatisfied with the company's response to her concerns, she launched a human rights complaint, alleging that she had been secretly videotaped, drugged and sexually assaulted at the retreat.

After an eight-day hearing, the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal recently concluded that Sutton simply could not be believed and that her version of the events did not occur.

The problem is that, unlike the courts where the loser pays legal costs to the other side, human rights tribunals have no mandate to award legal costs.

This serves employees' interests but not those of their current or former employers.

If employees have no risk of losing at trial and paying legal costs, why not pull the trigger on an extensive complaint. Here, despite making serious claims that were ultimately unsupported, Sutton was not forced to pay her former employer even a dime.

What's worse is that while Sutton was provided with legal counsel at the government's expense by the Human Rights Legal Support Centre, a provincially funded agency that pursues claims on behalf of employees, her former employer was left to fend for itself.

In my experience, if complainants are actually forced to pay for a lawyer, fewer frivolous claims will be advanced, leaving more time and resources for those that actually do have merit.

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4 sports

Lightning double down on Senators

St. Louis and Moore both score two goals as Tampa Bay gets win

Martin St. Louis and Dominic Moore each scored two goals last night to lead the Tampa Bay Lightning past the Ottawa Senators 5-2.

Steven Stamkos had an empty-net goal and Simon Gagne had two assists for the Lightning, who have won two in a row after a four-game losing skid.

Ottawa, last in the Eastern Conference, got goals from Jason Spezza and Milan Michalek. The Senators dropped to 6-4-1 over their last 11.

St. Louis put the Lightning up 1-0 from in close at 3:15 of the second. Just 14 seconds later, Tampa Bay goalie Dwayne Roloson made a glove save on Ryan Shannon's shot from the left circle.

Moore made it 2-0 with 12:35 left in the second. Marc-Andre Bergeron's shot went off the end boards and rebounded into the crease, where Moore poked the puck into the net while Ottawa goalie Curtis McElhinney was trying to control it with his glove.

5	2
LIGHTNING	SENATORS

St. Louis extended Tampa Bay's advantage to 3-0 on his 29th of the season 5:48 into the third off a pass through the slot from Gagne.

After Spezza scored with 9:57 left in the third, Tampa Bay responded with Moore's second of the game, 1:24 later.

Michalek scored a shorthanded goal later at 15:15, the 16th time Tampa Bay has been scored on while on the power play.

Stamkos, who has just four goals in his last 22 games, scored his 44th this season with 33.9 seconds left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

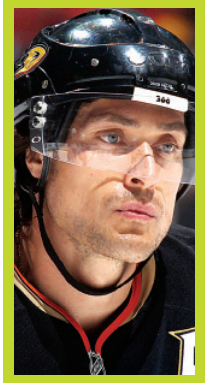
Not this time

Curtis McElhinney, claimed by Ottawa off waivers from the Lightning on Feb. 28, had beaten Tampa Bay twice earlier this month.

CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Tampa Bay's Mattias Ohlund battles with Colin Greening for the puck last night.

Quoted



"One day I feel like I could play 10 more years, and the next day I feel like, 'Why are you still doing this?' That's why I'm not even going to think about that during the season."

TTEEMU SELANNE, 40, ON WHETHER HE PLANS TO RETIRE AFTER THIS SEASON. HE HAS SEVEN GOALS AND 11 POINTS IN THE PAST FIVE GAMES FOR THE DUCKS

"He's a special athlete doing special things at a really remarkable age."

DUCKS COACH RANDY CARLYLE

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Opinion

KEN CAMPBELL
THE HOCKEY NEWS

HOW CAN SENS MAKE MOST OF CAP SPACE?

After a truly miserable season, the Ottawa Senators will go into an off-season with more than a few chips to play when it comes to signing unrestricted free agents.

Too bad it's such a bad year for them. The group is particularly thin at forward, which is where the Senators need the most help. You see, the Senators have a total of $42.8 million committed to 15 roster players next season, meaning that if the salary cap holds steady at $58.8 million for 2011-12, they'll have about $16 million to spend to re-sign their own players and go after a few others.

And they won't have to use up a whole lot of their cap space to get their own players under contract. Forwards Marek Svatos and Ryan Shannon are their only unrestricted free agents up front and David Hale is their only UFA on defence. The betting here is they could, if they choose, get Svatos and Shannon back for reasonable money and allow Hale to walk. They have David Runblad and Jared Cowen waiting in the wings. In goal, Craig Anderson is under contract and Robin Lehner will almost certainly be the backup.

The three main restricted free agents they have to get under contract are all forwards — Bobby Butler, Colin Greening and Erik Condra. All three have acquitted themselves well since being summoned by the Senators and all three make in the range of $900,000 and probably deserve a raise. But none of the three has arbitration rights, meaning these players have almost no bargaining leverage beyond sitting out if they don't reach a deal. The Senators should not have to spend much more than $3 million to $3.5 million to get all three under contract.

They'll probably have to reserve space for the rookie salary cap, plus all achievable bonuses, for the player they pick in the first round of the draft in June. But that still would leave ample room for them to get some desperately needed scoring via free agency.

Brad Richards is the jewel of July 1 and he would be a fantastic pickup the Senators could probably afford. But would he really come to a team that's rebuilding when he will have so many other options? Probably not.

There are some very good players who might be available, though, including Jason Arnott, Jamie Langenbrunner, Jussi Jokinen, Joel Ward, Tomas Kopecky and Brendan Morrison. There is not a star among them, but they are solid veterans with good track records.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
dx-Philadelphia	76	46	20	4	6	243	202	102	21-11-2-4	25-9-2-2	5-1-1-3	W1
dx-Washington	77	44	22	5	6	207	185	99	22-8-2-6	22-14-3-0	7-2-0-1	L1
dx-Boston	75	42	23	5	5	226	178	94	18-13-3-2	24-10-2-3	4-4-2-0	W1
x-Pittsburgh	77	45	24	5	3	220	188	98	24-14-2-0	21-10-3-3	7-3-0-0	L1
Tampa Bay	75	40	24	5	6	223	228	91	22-11-1-4	18-13-4-2	3-3-2-2	W1
Montreal	76	40	29	4	3	200	196	87	22-11-3-3	18-18-1-0	4-6-0-0	L3
NY Rangers	76	41	30	2	3	218	181	87	18-16-1-3	23-14-1-0	8-1-0-1	W1
Buffalo	76	38	29	8	1	225	214	85	18-16-3-1	20-13-5-0	6-3-1-0	L1
Carolina	76	36	30	5	5	214	226	82	20-13-2-2	16-17-3-3	5-4-1-0	W1
Toronto	77	35	32	5	5	205	235	80	18-14-3-4	17-18-2-1	6-4-0-0	W1
Atlanta	75	32	31	5	7	210	246	76	17-15-2-5	15-16-3-2	6-3-1-0	W1
New Jersey	75	34	36	3	2	155	189	73	18-15-2-1	16-21-0-2	4-5-0-1	L3
NY Islanders	76	29	35	7	5	210	241	70	16-17-1-4	13-18-6-1	4-3-2-1	L2
Florida	77	29	36	5	7	187	212	70	15-15-4-4	14-21-2-2	2-5-0-3	L6
Ottawa	76	29	37	5	5	175	233	68	14-19-2-3	15-18-3-2	6-3-0-1	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
y-Vancouver	76	50	17	4	5	247	175	109	25-8-1-4	25-9-3-1	9-1-0-0	W3
d-Detroit	76	44	22	6	4	244	216	98	20-12-4-2	24-10-2-2	5-3-2-0	L1
d-San Jose	76	44	23	4	5	224	199	97	21-11-2-3	23-12-2-2	6-1-0-3	W1
Phoenix	77	41	25	7	4	219	212	93	19-13-4-2	22-12-3-2	7-2-1-0	L1
Los Angeles	75	43	26	4	2	207	181	92	23-12-3-0	20-14-1-2	7-1-2-0	W3
Nashville	76	41	25	6	4	202	179	92	22-8-4-3	19-17-2-1	8-1-1-0	W6
Anaheim	76	43	28	3	2	219	221	91	24-12-1-1	19-16-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
Chicago	75	41	26	3	5	242	206	90	23-15-0-0	18-11-4-4	5-3-1-1	W1
Calgary	77	38	28	4	7	235	226	87	22-12-1-3	16-16-3-4	4-4-1-1	W1
Dallas	74	38	26	4	6	208	210	86	20-11-3-5	18-15-1-1	4-3-2-1	L3
Columbus	76	34	31	4	7	202	233	79	17-17-1-3	17-14-3-4	3-5-1-1	W1
Minnesota	75	35	32	3	5	188	213	78	17-16-2-3	18-16-1-2	1-7-2-0	L8
St. Louis	75	34	32	4	5	212	219	77	21-12-1-3	13-20-3-2	6-4-0-0	W2
Colorado	75	28	39	7	1	211	267	64	15-18-4-0	13-21-3-1	2-8-0-0	L3
Edmonton	75	23	41	2	9	180	249	57	12-20-1-5	11-21-2-3	1-6-1-2	L9

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division title; d — division leaders; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL or SOL columns.

Last night's results
Toronto 4 Buffalo 3
Carolina 3 Washington 2 (SO)
Columbus 3 Florida 2 (SO)
Philadelphia 5 Pittsburgh 2
Chicago at Boston
Atlanta at Montreal
Ottawa at Tampa Bay
Minnesota at St. Louis
Vancouver at Nashville
Los Angeles at Edmonton
Dallas at Phoenix

Monday's results
Chicago 3 Detroit 2 (OT)
Anaheim 5 Colorado 4

Tonight's games
All times Eastern
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Carolina, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games
Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Washington, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Los Angeles at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Dallas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

MAPLE LEAFS 4, SABRES 3

First Period
1. Toronto, Phaneuf 8 (MacArthur, Kulemin) 1:34
2. Toronto, Boyce 5 (Kadri, Crabb) 18:46
3. Buffalo, Vanek 27 (Hecht, Stafford) 19:48

Penalties — None.

Second Period
4. Toronto, MacArthur 21 (Kadri, Gunnarsson) 5:06
5. Buffalo, Pominville 20 (Connolly, Sekera) 6:25
6. Buffalo, Niedermayer 5, 6:55
7. Toronto, Grabovski 29 (Kessel, MacArthur) 13:35

Penalties — Weber Buf (delay of game) 2:08, Myers Buf (holding), Gaustad Buf, Phaneuf Tor (slashing) 2:59.

Third Period — No Scoring.

Penalties — Gaustad Buf, Komisarek Tor (roughing) 4:31, Stafford Buf (tripping) 5:01, Vanek Buf (hooking) 9:13, Boyce Tor (hooking) 11:32, Weber Buf (goaltender interference) 17:05, Bozak Tor (hooking) 17:57.

Shots

Buffalo	9	14	8	—31
Toronto	11	10	14	—35

Goal — Buffalo: Miller (L,33-22-8); Toronto: Reimer (W,18-8-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Buffalo: 0-2; Toronto: 0-5.
Referees — Stephane Auger, Brad Watson.
Linesmen — Greg Devorski, Scott Driscoll.
Att. — 19,483 (18,819) at Toronto.

HURRICANES 3, CAPITALS 2 (SO)

First Period — No Scoring.

Penalties — Allen Car, Arnott Wash (roughing) 8:23, Laich Wash (interference) 8:56, LaRose Car (boarding) 11:39, Cole Car (hooking) 14:34, Hannan Wash (interference) 18:05.

Second Period
1. Carolina, Jokinen 17 (Corvo, Ruutu) 2:29 (pp)
2. Washington, Semin 27 (Laich) 14:18
3. Washington, Johansson 13 (Semin, Carlson) 17:35

Missed penalty shot — LaRose Car, 12:10.

Penalties — Backstrom Wash (tripping) 1:06, Erskine Wash (roughing) 2:41, McBain Car (slashing) 11:03.

Third Period
4. Carolina, Skinner 27 (Allen) 1:46

Penalty — Semin Wash (hooking) 16:41.

Overtime — No Scoring.

Penalties — None.

Shootout
Carolina wins 2-0
Carolina (2) — Skinner, goal; Jokinen, miss; Ruutu, goal.
Washington (0) — Ovechkin, miss; Backstrom, miss.

Shots

Carolina	11	9	6	0	—26
Washington	16	12	7	5	—40

Goal — Carolina: Ward (W,33-25-9); Washington: Varlamov (L,10-9-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Carolina: 1-5; Washington: 0-3.
Referees — Kevin Pollock, Frederick L'Ecuyer.
Linesmen — Derek Amell, Brian Mach.
Att. — 18,398 (18,398) at Washington.

FLYERS 5, PENGUINS 2

First Period
1. Pittsburgh, Kovalev 16 (Letang, Letestu) 12:22
2. Philadelphia, Carter 35 (Coburn, Carle) 15:56

Penalties — Pittsburgh bench (too many men; served by Conner) 1:51, Richards Pha (slashing) 3:34, Niskanen Pgh (holding) 13:56.

Second Period
3. Pittsburgh, Kennedy 19 (Orpik, Kunitz) 9:21
4. Philadelphia, Hartnell 21 (Leino, Timonen) 13:45 (pp)
5. Philadelphia, Giroux 25 (O'Donnell, Meszaros) 14:32

Penalty — Martin Pgh (interference) 13:03.

Third Period
6. Philadelphia, Leino 18 (Hartnell, Briere) 5:30
7. Philadelphia, Leino 19 (Briere, O'Donnell) 8:38

Penalties — Carle Pha (hooking) 8:59, Hartnell Pha (interference) 13:23, Lovejoy Pgh (hooking) 16:08, Carcillo Pha (high-sticking) 19:18.

Shots

Philadelphia	6	10	8	—24
Pittsburgh	7	6	14	—27

Goal — Philadelphia: Bobrovsky (W,28-11-6); Pittsburgh: Fleury (L,34-19-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Philadelphia: 1-4; Pittsburgh: 0-4.
Referees — Tom Kowal, Dan O'Halloran. **Linesmen** — Brad Kovachik, Jonny Murray.
Att. — 18,335 (18,087) at Pittsburgh.

JACKETS 3, PANTHERS 2 (SO)

First Period
1. Columbus, Upshall 21 (Dorsett, Pahlsson) 7:06

Penalties — Vermette Clb (hooking) 10:41, Repik Fla (holding) 17:48, Weiss Fla (hooking) 19:12.

Second Period
2. Florida, Booth 22 (Samsonov, Santorelli) 3:41 (pp)
3. Columbus, Vermette 18 (Umberger, Calvert) 18:58

Penalty — Methot Clb (slashing) 3:00.

Third Period
4. Florida, Dadonov 8 (Garrison, Bernier) 7:31

Penalties — Brassard Clb (interference) 1:13, Weaver Fla (delay of game) 19:07.

Overtime — No Scoring.

Penalties — None.

Shootout
Columbus wins 1-0
Florida (0) — Weiss, miss; Santorelli, miss; Samsonov, miss.
Columbus (1) — Nash, miss; Mayorov, goal; Calvert, miss.

Shots

Florida	9	9	12	1	—31
Columbus	11	10	8	3	—32

Goal — Florida: Clemmensen (L,8-7-7); Columbus: Mason (W,24-19-6). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Florida: 1-3; Columbus: 0-3.
Referees — Chris Rooney, Francois St. Laurent.
Linesmen — Don Henderson, Steve Miller.
Att. — 11,670 (18,144) at Columbus.

MONDAY

DUCKS 5, AVALANCHE 4

First Period
1. Colorado, O'Reilly 11 (Hejduk, Stoa) 3:34 (pp)
2. Colorado, Duchene 27 (Hejduk, Hunwick) 5:17

Penalties — Winchester Ana (elbowing) 2:03, Koci Col, Parros Ana (fighting) 4:09, Duchene Col (hooking) 10:01, Koci Col, McLeod Col, Ruutu Ana, Parros Ana (roughing) 16:00.

Second Period
3. Anaheim, Selanne 26, penalty shot, 0:47
4. Anaheim, Blake 15 (Selanne, Koivu) 4:06
5. Anaheim, Selanne 27 (Fowler, Koivu) 9:01
6. Colorado, Jones 25 (Winnik, O'Byrne) 15:30

Penalty — Stastny Col (hooking) 5:05.

Third Period
7. Anaheim, Fowler 9 (Selanne, Visnovsky) 2:49 (pp)
8. Anaheim, Selanne 28 (Getzlaf, Visnovsky) 15:11 (pp)
9. Colorado, Stastny 21 (Hejduk, Duchene) 19:18

Penalties — Gaunce Col (tripping) 1:35, Lydman Ana (hooking) 11:51, Colorado bench (too many men; served by Hejduk) 15:00.

Shots

Colorado	13	10	12	—35
Anaheim	17	18	7	—42

Goal — Colorado: B.Elliott (L,15-25-9); Anaheim: Emery (W,5-0-0). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Colorado: 1-2; Anaheim: 2-4.
Referees — Marc Joannette, Brian Pochmara.
Linesmen — Darren Gibbs, Mark Shewchyk.
Att. — 14,336 (17,174) at Anaheim.

MLB

SPRING TRAINING

Yesterday's results
Toronto 7 Baltimore 4
Cincinnati 8 Cleveland 3
Florida 4 St. Louis 2
Kansas City 3 Chicago White Sox 2
Milwaukee 8 San Diego 7
Arizona 15 Chicago Cubs 8
Seattle 7 Colorado 2
N.Y. Mets 8 Washington 2
N.Y. Yankees 2 Detroit 1
Boston 1 Tampa Bay 1, tie
Atlanta 4 Minnesota 2 (10 innings)
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia
L.A. Dodgers at L.A. Angels
San Francisco at Oakland

Today's games
All times Eastern
Minnesota at Atlanta, 12:05 p.m.
Florida vs. NYM at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10 pm
Oakland at San Francisco, 3:45 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m.
Boston at Houston, 8:05 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP-WTA SONY ERICSSON OPEN

At Key Biscayne, Fla.

Men's Singles — Third Round
Alexander Dolgopolov (21), Ukraine, def. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (15), France, 6-7 (2), 6-4, 7-5.

Men's Singles — Fourth Round
David Ferrer (6), Spain, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 6-1, 6-2.
Mardy Fish (14), United States, def. Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, 7-5, 7-6 (5).
Kevin Anderson, South Africa, def. John Isner (30), United States, 6-3, 7-6 (4).

Men's Doubles — Second Round
Mahesh Bhupathi and Leander Paes (3), India, def. Marc Lopez and David Marrero, Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Michael Llodra, France, and Nenad Zimonjic (6), Serbia, def. Xavier Malisse, Belg., and Jamie Murray, Brit., 6-7 (4), 6-3, 10-5 tiebreak.

Women's Singles — Fourth Round
Kim Clijsters (2), Belgium, def. Ana Ivanovic (19), Serbia, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 7-6 (5).

Women's Singles — Quarterfinals
Andrea Petkovic (21), Germany, def. Jelena Jankovic (6), Serbia, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Women's Doubles — Quarterfinals
Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, and Agnieszka Radwanska, Poland, def. Nuria Llagostera Vives and Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain, 6-7 (4), 6-1, 10-1 tiebreak.

CRICKET

WORLD CUP

SEMIFINALS

Yesterday's result
At Colombo, Sri Lanka
Sri Lanka (220 for five) def. New Zealand (217, all out) by five wickets.

Today's match
At Mohali, India
Pakistan vs. India

BASKETBALL

NCAA TOURNAMENT

At Houston

NATIONAL SEMIFINALS
Saturday's games
Kentucky (29-8) vs. Connecticut (30-9)
Butler (27-9) vs. Virginia Commonwealth (28-11)

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Monday, April 4
Semifinal winners

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	2	0	0	6	2	0
Chicago	1	0	1	4	4	3
New England	1	0	1	4	3	2
New York	1	0	1	4	1	0
D.C.	1	1	0	3	4	3
Toronto FC	1	1	0	3	4	4
Sporting Kansas City	1	1	0	3	5	5
Houston	0	1	1	1	1	2
Columbus	0	1	1	1	1	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Real Salt Lake	2	0	0	6	5	1
Colorado	2	0	0	6	4	1
Los Angeles	1	1	1	4	3	5
Vancouver	1	1	0	3	4	3
San Jose	1	1	0	3	2	1
Seattle	0	2	1	1	1	3
FC Dallas	0	1	1	1	1	3
Chivas USA	0	2	0	0	2	4
Portland	0	2	0	0	1	5

NOTE: Three points for victory, one pt. for tie.

Friday's games
All times Eastern
FC Dallas at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's games
Chivas USA at Toronto FC, 1 p.m.
Sporting Kansas City at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
Houston at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at New England, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle FC at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's game
D.C. United at Colorado, 7 p.m.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

QUALIFYING

(Home nations listed first)
Group A
Belgium 4, Azerbaijan 1
Turkey 2, Austria 0
Group C
Estonia 1, Serbia 1
Northern Ireland 0, Slovenia 0
Group D
Romania 3, Luxembourg 1
Group E
Netherlands 5, Hungary 3
Sweden 2, Moldova 1
Group F
Israel 1, Georgia 0
Group I
Czech Republic 2, Liechtenstein 0
Lithuania 1, Spain 3

EXHIBITION

Belarus 0, **Canada 1**
China 3, Honduras 0
Costa Rica vs. Argentina, (n)
Cyprus 0, Bulgaria 1
Cuba vs. Panama, (n)
El Salvador vs. Jamaica, (n)
England 1, Ghana 1
Equatorial Guinea 1, Gambia 0
France 0, Croatia 0
Germany 1, Australia 2
Greece 0, Poland 0
Ireland 2, Uruguay 3
Nigeria 3, Kenya 0
Oman 2, Tunisia 1
Portugal 2, Finland 0
Qatar 1, Russia 1
Slovakia 1, Denmark 2
Ukraine 0, Italy 2
United States vs. Paraguay, (n)
Mexico vs. Venezuela, (n)
Jordan 1, North Korea 1
Iraq 0, Kuwait 1
Colombia 0, Chile 2
Peru 0, Ecuador 0

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Chicago	53	20	.726	—
y-Boston	51	22	.699	2
x-Miami	51	23	.689	2½
x-Orlando	47	27	.635	6½
x-Atlanta	42	32	.568	11½
Philadelphia	38	36	.514	15½
New York	36	38	.486	17½
Indiana	33	42	.440	21
Charlotte	31	42	.425	22
Milwaukee	29	44	.397	24
Detroit	26	47	.356	27
New Jersey	23	50	.315	30
Toronto	20	53	.274	33
Washington	18	55	.247	35
Cleveland	15	58	.205	38

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	57	17	.770	—
y-L.A. Lakers	53	20	.726	3½
x-Dallas	52	21	.712	4½
x-Oklahoma City	48	24	.667	8
Denver	44	29	.603	12½
Portland	43	31	.581	14
New Orleans	42	32	.568	15
Memphis	41	33	.554	16
Houston	39	35	.527	18
Phoenix	36	36	.500	20
Utah	36	39	.480	21½
Golden State	32	42	.432	25
L.A. Clippers	29	45	.392	28
Sacramento	20	52	.278	36
Minnesota	17	57	.230	40

d – division leader; **x** — clinched playoff berth; **y** — clinched division.

Last night's results
Houston 112, New Jersey 87
Cleveland 102, Miami 90
Golden State at Oklahoma City
Phoenix at Sacramento

Monday's results
Charlotte 87, Milwaukee 86
Indiana 107, Boston 100
New York 113, Orlando 106, OT
Philadelphia 97, Chicago 85
Portland 100, San Antonio 92
Washington 100, Utah 95 (OT)

Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Orlando at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Houston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Portland at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Denver, 9 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Toronto	12	9	3	.750	141	114	—
x-Buffalo	11	8	3	.727	122	102	½
Rochester	11	6	5	.545	106	117	2½
Boston	13	6	7	.462	133	120	3½
Philadelphia	12	4	8	.333	109	138	5

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Calgary	12	9	3	.750	153	132	—
x-Washington	12	6	6	.500	155	143	3
Minnesota	11	5	6	.455	124	124	3½
Edmonton	12	3	9	.250	131	160	6
Colorado	10	2	8	.200	89	113	6

x — clinched playoff berth.

WEEK 13
All times Eastern
Friday's games
Washington at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

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5 drive

Longer, wider, better

There's little or no resemblance to the somewhat bland and underpowered 2008-11 Focus.

The new version is longer, wider and the front and rear wheels are set farther apart. Although the sedan's trunk has shrunk a bit, the hatchback provides cavernous stowage, especially with the rear seat folded forward.

Sedan is just as good

Parked alongside its Fiesta relation, the Focus looks positively aggressive with its wide-open-mouth air intake and more planted stance.

For those who just can't get with the sleek-looking hatchback, the sedan version offers a more conservative silhouette. It's also the only style available if you order the price-leader Focus S, which begins at $16,450 (including destination charges).

Engine: what's not to like

The standard 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine should be to everyone's liking. Output is pegged at 160 horsepower and 146 pound-feet of torque.

That's 20 more horses and 10 more pound-feet than the outgoing 2.0-litre engine had. In the next 12 months, Ford expects to add a high-output turbocharged powerplant option, as well as an all-electric-powered model.

▶ The Focus is offered in hatchback and sedan (pictured) body styles that are radical departures from the previous models.

Ford focusing on new 'game'

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

The days of North Americans being one step behind the rest of the world seem to be coming to an end.

It was assumed that we simply weren't interested in stylish, firm-riding hatchbacks that Europeans were driving, so they were seldom offered here. After all, we liked soft, pudgy cars with spoilers and plastic body cladding, right? We never did, really, but that's what we got.

The upshot was that our Ford Focus was not the same as the European Ford Focus: not even close.

But the cost-saving global-design movement is changing the way the game is played and many excellent European models are now showing up.

The 2012 Ford Focus and its smaller Fiesta relation are closely similar to models available throughout the world. The only major difference is that a four-door sedan body style has been added to both lineups for our market. As well, the Fiesta originates from Ford's Mexico plant, while the Focus rolls off the assembly line in Wayne, Mich.

The much-improved Focus shouldn't be viewed as just another econo-compact, but as Ford's mainstream model that can be outfitted according to taste and/or budget. It should also be a treat for anyone who appreciates an efficiently packaged car with European flavour.

▶ The Focus shines with an intricate and perhaps even glamorous centre stack and good attention to detail.

▶ There's no trouble fitting three people back there. To make up for not having a hatch, the sedan is about 18 centimetres longer.

By comparison

Chevrolet Cruze
Base price: $17,000
All-new Cobalt replacement is big on style, content and safety features.

Kia Forte
Base price: $17,450
Well-equipped sedan is priced right. New hatch model for 2011.

Mazda3
Base price: $17,700
Sporty sedan and hatch is fun to drive. New thrifty engines coming for 2012.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Scan code for more car reviews and news

10

In terms of trim levels, the top-run Titanium's full-load content includes touch-screen audio and climate controls, push button start, 10-speaker Sony sound system and a sport-tuned suspension with 17-inch wheels.

Ford Focus

What you should know about the 2012 Ford Focus:

- **Types:** Four-door sedan/four-door hatchback.
- **Engine (hp):** (hp): 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (160).
- **Transmission:** Five-speed manual; six-speed automated manual (opt.).
- **Points:** Focus represents significant design and content improvement over previous model.

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2011 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.§

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Far out! Groovy! Right on! Let it all hang out even! Because VW appears finally ready to re-introduce its iconic Microbus, the official vehicle of hippie-ness.

VW introduced a Microbus concept, simply called 'Microbus' for the 2001 Detroit auto show. Everyone seemed to like it, but VW obviously didn't green light it for production, unless I've had too much to dream this last decade, and somehow missed it.

But at last month's Geneva auto show, VW introduced another Microbus concept, this time called 'Bulli' and the chances are better than average that we will see a production-based version of this design in a few years.

When the original vehicle debuted in 1950 it was internally known as T1 — for Transporter 1. But Germans always called it 'Bulli' and North Americans always called it 'Microbus'. I think at this point it responds to either name, but I'm sticking with Microbus.

Unlike the 2001 concept, this new concept is compact — shorter even than its 1950 predecessor. Judging by its current dimensions, it appears production versions would be based on a new compact platform, which will see the light of day next year on the third-generation Audi A3.

But tidy as it is, it still seats six, via two bench seats. The seats all fold down to create a "sleeping" area — so the Microbus' camping traditions will continue.

Another novel interior feature is a removable i-Pad in the centre console, which serves as a multifunctional touch screen and lava lamp stand-in.

With A3 architecture, a production version could use any number of the company's powertrains. The concept's powertrain, however, is 100 per cent electric. A front-mounted 85kW electric motor and 40kWh lithium-ion battery drives the front wheels, and is said to give Bulli a range of about 300 km.

Acceleration and top speed should be leisurely, which is entirely in keeping with the Microbus legacy. The 1950 model had a 40-hp rear-mounted engine and the aerodynamics of a Home Depot garden shed.

But it had personality and versatility galore and all sorts of people — hippie and otherwise — loved them.

Even with its front-engine layout, the Microbus concept manages to evoke the vibe of the original, particularly when looking at the vehicle head on. Like the original, the concept uses two-tone paint to create the van's signature "V" face, complete with an oversized "VW" emblem.

A VW board member said there is a "big chance" the vehicle will be built, and that the U.S. market is keen on it. To keep costs competitive, when VW sells smallish vehicles in North America it tends to build them there as well. So building a North American Microbus might entail quite a bit of investment.

But never say never. As that eloquent hippie, Ken Kesey, once said: "The sixties are not over; they're not over until the Fat Lady gets high."

Volkswagen's new Microbus concept is called Bulli

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Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. ‡‡Based on highway driving only in 2011 Fiesta 1.6L Duratec I-4 Automatic with SFE Package (6.8 city/4.9 hwy/5.9 combined L/100 km). Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. **Class is Subcompact Cars. Comparison data based on Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) Subcompact Cars and R.L. Polk B-Car (excluding Diesel) classifieds. ‡‡ Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 Fiesta 1.6L Duratec I-4 Automatic with SFE Package based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ^Vehicle shown is Fiesta SE 5 Door Manual with Sport Appearance Package and SYNC® and Sound 1.6L I-4 5-speed manual with 7.1L/100km city and 5.3L/100km hwy. 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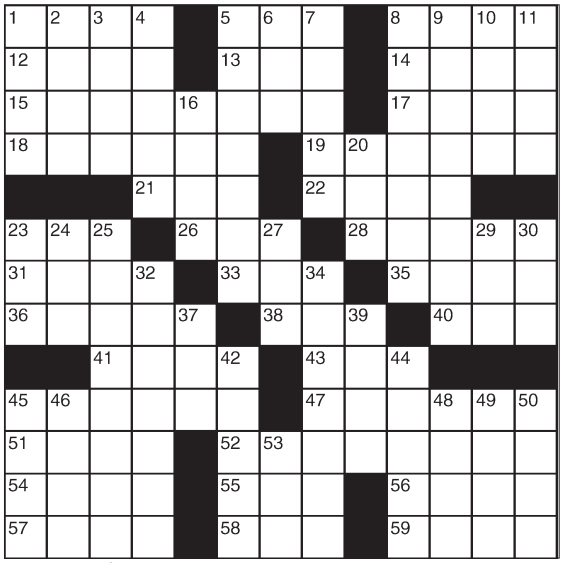
Crossword



Across

1 NYPD types
5 Scratch
8 Open somewhat
12 Oil cartel
13 Have bills
14 Diamond corner
15 Something one likes
17 Met melody
18 Classify
19 "The Taking of — 1 2 3"
21 D.C. figure
22 — gin fizz
23 English channel?
26 Jewel
28 Scoundrel
31 Wander
33 Fort —, N.J.
35 Tend texts
36 Sleep disorder
38 "Glee" actress Michele
40 Pouch
41 Commanded
43 Unburden
45 Carbolic acid
47 Pizza toppings
51 Parliamentary title
52 Sports page grid
54 Shrek, for one
55 Raw mineral
56 Director Kazan
57 Autocrat
58 Existed
59 Stalk

Down

1 Caesar co-star
2 Piece of work
3 Energizes, with "up"
4 Cone contents
5 Having blotches
6 Shock and —
7 Harvests
8 Ornamental shell
9 Marines (Sl.)
10 Largest of the seven
11 Paper quantity
16 Kermit, e.g.
20 Wapiti
23 Shape shifter?
24 Conk
25 Australia's capital
27 Wire measure
29 By way of
30 List-ending abbr.
32 Gad about
34 Photocopies
37 Commotion
39 Has a bug
42 Knee counterpart
44 Cuts into cubes
45 Story line
46 Gluttons
48 Chevy hybrid
49 Great Lake
50 Fashion line?
53 — pro nobis

▶ Yesterday's answer

J	A	R	S		J	E	T		B	L	A	B
I	D	O	L		E	T	H		L	O	G	O
B	A	B	Y	B	L	U	E		U	S	E	D
E	R	E		A	L	I		N	E	E	D	Y
			B	R	O		M	O	B			
M	A	I	L	S		K	A	R	L	O	F	F
A	L	S	O		F	I	X		O	R	A	L
D	E	P	O	S	I	T		C	O	R	N	Y
			D	O	G		C	O	D			
G	A	B	B	Y		G	O	O		S	E	A
L	I	R	A		B	A	N	K	R	O	L	L
O	D	I	N		A	N	D		I	S	L	E
W	E	E	K		A	G	O		D	O	S	E

Sudoku

		4				5	9	
5	6						4	
			4		7	2		
		2			6	1		9
			3		9			
3		1	5			7		
		6	7		8			
	3						7	4
	1	5				8		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	8	9	3	2	1	5	6	7
6	2	7	5	9	8	1	3	4
5	3	1	6	4	7	8	9	2
3	1	8	2	6	9	7	4	5
7	6	5	8	3	4	9	2	1
9	4	2	7	1	5	3	8	6
2	5	6	9	7	3	4	1	8
8	9	4	1	5	2	6	7	3
1	7	3	4	8	6	2	5	9

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To all of my girls....we're going to Cubes in 10 sleeps and it's going to be messssy! If group marriages are ever legal, you'll all be my hot wives. I love all of you jerks! **TRIXX ;)**

To my cuddlepuff: This is good. Also, u're gorgeous. I love you farther than any rocketship would take me. Keep smiling, I'll be home soon. **TLS <3**

Happy Birthday, Zed! May all of your wishes and dreams come true P.S. I'm falling for you too

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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 As Mercury, planet of the mind, turns retrograde in your sign today, you will have to look at some of the decisions you have made in recent weeks.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Some of your old fears and worries may resurface today but it is only a passing phase, so don't be alarmed. In a matter of days, you will realize that it's all in your mind and that none of it can possibly hurt you.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You seem to believe that if you don't push yourself, you will miss out and that others will get the applause that should have been yours. Maybe they will. But more likely, they'll get things thrown at them!

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may be worried about where you are going, especially on the work front. But there's no need to change your plans. Trust that fate will lead you where you most need to go.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 It will pay you to rethink something you decided in the past few weeks, especially if your initial decision was made in haste. It's not often that you get the chance to go back and put things right. Don't waste it.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 What seems like bad news early in the day may turn out to be good news by the end of the day. There is no need to worry. Keep that thought in mind over the next few weeks.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 It may be tempting to withhold your approval from someone who has let you down, but is that wise? Most likely it will make the situation worse than it needs to be, so let it go.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Something is worrying you and the only way you are going to recover your peace of mind is to confide in someone you trust. Almost certainly you are overreacting but you won't know until you talk about it.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If you let people get away with things they do not deserve to get away with, you'll regret it. Let them know there is a price to be paid for trying to push you around.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Sometimes, the best way to deal with a problem is to ignore it. That is what you must do today. Most likely what you see as a problem is just your imagination playing tricks.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Go back and take care of something that should have been dealt with weeks ago. It's not often you get a second bite at the cherry but that's what the planets are offering you now. Don't turn it down.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Others may say that plans you made earlier in the month will have to be revised in the light of new information but don't believe them. Nothing has changed. **SALLY BROMPTON**

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